

REMARKS

Favorable reconsideration of this application is respectfully requested.

Claims 1-9, 11-21, and 23-31 are pending in this application. Claims 25-31 are allowed. Claims 1-9, 11-15, 17-21, 23, and 24 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as unpatentable over U.S. patent 5,305,372 to Tomiyori in view of JP 01-212152 to Akita and U.S. patent 5,732,349 to Sanpei et al. (herein "Sanpei"). Claim 16 was objected to as dependent upon a rejected base claim, but was noted as allowable if rewritten in independent form to include all of the limitations of its base claim and any intervening claims.

Initially, applicants gratefully acknowledge the allowance of claims 25-31 and the indication of allowable subject matter in dependent claim 16.

Addressing now the rejection of claims 1-9, 11-15, 17-21, 23, and 24 under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as unpatentable over Tomiyori in view of Akita and Sanpei, that rejection is traversed by the present response.

Applicants respectfully submit the above-noted combination of teachings does not disclose the specific memory structure recited in the claims. More specifically, each of independent claims 1, 4, 8, 23, and 24 positively recites the memory being:

divided into memory regions corresponding to different destination countries so that each different region includes communication destination party identifying information of the communication destination party and subscriber number information of the communication destination party of a respective different destination country.

Such subject matter as recited in the claims is shown as a non-limiting example in Figure 8 in the present specification. As shown for example in Figure 8, an address memory stores various telephone numbers in different regions corresponding to different countries. Such a feature as recited in the claims is believed to clearly distinguish over the applied art.

The outstanding office action cites the teachings in Akita to disclose the above-noted limitation. The outstanding office action specifically states "Akita teaches an auto-dialing

system in telephone communication equipment wherein the memory means is divided according to country [see purpose and constitution sections of English translation]”.¹

In response to that position in the Office Action, applicants respectfully submit that Akita does not disclose the same type of division of a memory by country as recited in the claims and as shown for example in Figure 8 in the present specification. The “Purpose” section of Akita discloses that certain data is stored by country. However, that “Purpose” section of Akita does not disclose or suggest that the specific data recited in the claims is designated by country. That is, and again with reference to Figure 8 in the present specification as a non-limiting example, each different region in a memory divided by country in the claims includes “communication destination party identifying information of the communication destination party and subscriber number information of the communication destination party of a respective different destination country”.

Akita does not teach or suggest storing such specific information in a memory divided by country. In fact, Akita appears to disclose just an opposite feature. In the “Purpose” section of Akita, Akita notes that the data storing means stores a name, the number of the country, and a telephone number before noting any division of storing data by country. Thus, Akita appears to suggest that such information with a name, the name of the country, and telephone number is not the data stored by country. Further, in the “Constitution” section Akita notes that the data storing part 2 is composed of a card type memory or semiconductor memory that stores “the data such as a telephone number, name and address, etc., and the display part 4 displays information such as a number to be input from a key switch, the country name of a calling opponent, name, telephone number, date and the other time, etc.”. That section in Akita does not provide any teaching or suggestion of specifically dividing a memory into different regions by country, and particularly such that each divided country

¹ Office Action of April 9, 2004, page 3, last paragraph.

region stores "communication destination party identifying information of the communication destination party and subscriber number information of the communication destination party of a respective different destination country", as recited in each of the above-noted independent claims.


Further, filed with the present response is a partial translation of Akita provided by the applicants. The enclosed partial translation is believed to support the above-noted position as to how the claim features as noted above distinguish over the teachings in Akita.

In such ways, applicants respectfully submit that Akita does not disclose the above-noted feature recited in the claims, and that thereby the combination of teachings of Tomiyama, Akita, and Sanpei does not meet the limitations of independent claims 1, 4, 8, 23, and 24, and the claims dependent therefrom.

Thus, applicants respectfully submit that the present application is now in condition for allowance, and it is hereby respectfully requested that this case be passed to issue.

Respectfully submitted,

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